

## **Bad Air in East Greenwich** **(Part 2 – a Draft Manifesto)**

### **Why Urgent Action is Needed**

Part 1 of EGRA's air quality report revealed the extent to which our air is polluted. This Part offers possible and affordable actions. Most are about traffic; that's because 80% of [air pollution](#) is from motor vehicles.

EGRA has consistently warned of over-burdening our precious infrastructure with over-development. This includes our air. Professionals, developers and the Council have dismissed these warnings. They are now coming true, in packed buses, traffic, sewerage and poorer air quality (AQ). And this is well before the biggest developments come on stream.

The suggestions below are designed to complement London-wide proposals such as those by [Clean Air London](#), and national initiatives following the [Supreme Court ruling](#) this year and the [VW diesel scandal](#).

### **Enhance Public Understanding**

- better monitoring and publicity of (especially Background) AQ, and the impact of major developments
- public electronic displays of AQ at selected points (eg Greenwich Square, Trafalgar Road)
- school-based sample monitoring projects
- traffic-free day(s) for Woolwich/Trafalgar Roads

### **Improve Public and Active Transport**

- cleaner buses, taxis and PHVs
- smarter rescheduling of bus routes to match demand changes (eg Sainsbury relocation)
- review the future of public transport links

### **Green Greenwich**

- plant (permanently or in planters) more appropriate trees; one tree for every death attributable to air pollution since 2010 would be a start
- protect (the few) remaining green spaces and pocket parks

### **Update the Clean Air Framework**

- stop the use of diesel generators to supply the grid
- ban biomass and waste burning
- ban incinerators
- ensure any power generation or district heating use ultra-low nitrous oxides treatment
- use European Union grants to help install onshore power supply for berthed ships

### **Civilise Road Traffic**

- declare East Greenwich (or the Borough) an Ultra-Low Emissions Zone
- reduce weight limit on Romney Road and extend to Woolwich/Trafalgar Roads
- charge more for diesel vehicle parking
- make all East Greenwich a 20mph zone ([City Report](#))
- launch a rolling replacement of Council diesel vehicles where appropriate
- enlist citizen involvement in policing idling vehicles
- call for better policing of all traffic rules

This menu is not a magic wand that will clear our air overnight. It is better than doing nothing, which appears the current policy.